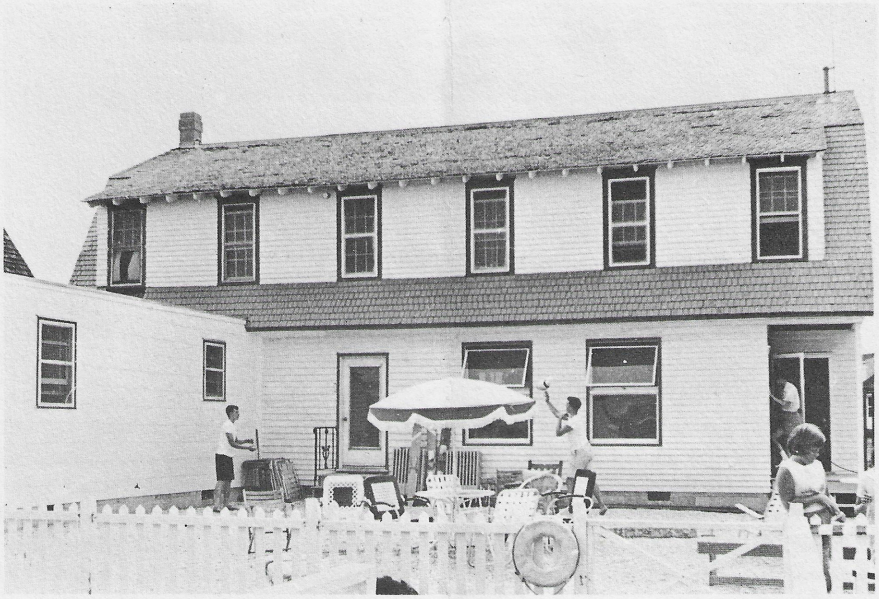
THE RUSSELL COTTAGE

of Saint Mary's Church, Ardmore, Pa.



at Stone Harbor, N.J.

The Russell Cottage Revisited
or
What's In It for Me?

After the shattering March storm of 1962, The Russell Cottage of St. Mary's Church — also known as the Choir Cottage and affectionately by many of us as the Russell-Hilton — now boasts expanded plumbing facilities and a generally spruced-up appearance both inside and out. For this we can thank the many members of St. Mary's who have put literally hundreds of man and woman hours into the Cottage's rehabilitation. Now it stands ready as never before to welcome, shelter and warm the hearts of all the men, women and young people of our Parish and their friends.

This summer we will have a new Director at Stone Harbor for the entire season — Mr. Richard Leinbach. Mr. Leinbach has had wide experience with young people — particularly teenagers — and currently teaches art at Harriton High School. He is married, and his wife and three young children will be staying with him at the Cottage.

Since some of you, at one time or another, have said you would like to know more about what Russell Cottage offers our Church, we reproduce here a short conversation between one of our parishioners (P) and what we shall call The Spirit of Russell Cottage (S).

A Vacation for You and Your Family

P. "Where on earth can my wife and three children and I get a decent summer vacation for under $100. a week?"

S. "In Stone Harbor, New Jersey."

P. "You're kidding! Why a motel costs from $150. on up for just one week. And meals would be another $75. or so."

Rates

S. "True enough. But apparently you don't know our Russell Cottage. Your whole family can stay there for a week for well under $100."

P. "What about food?"

S. "Included. The rates (at the back of this folder) are American Plan — the prices shown include three meals a day."

P. "Sounds interesting. But it's all just one big dormitory, isn't it?"

Accommodations

S. "Two dormitories — one for men and boys and one for women and children — AND A NUMBER OF PRIVATE ROOMS for married couples who prefer them."

P. "Well, I'd like my wife to get away from cooking and washing dishes and all that jazz. I want her to have a rest and —"

S. "A professional cook does all the cooking. The director appoints a detail for each meal so that no one person gets stuck with cleaning up after every meal. Your wife will get lots of rest."

P. "I don't know too much about Stone Harbor. What is there to do there?"

Activities

S. "Within thirty feet of the living room at the Russell Cottage you can dive in the Bay for a refreshing swim. The Ocean and its beautiful, guarded beaches are just a few minutes walk.

"The Stone Harbor Episcopal Church is a four-minute walk before or after Sunday breakfast.

"Two movie houses are within four blocks.

"Sightseeing boats, that daily circumnavigate the Island (Stone Harbor and Avalon), and 'party boats' for deep-sea fishing leave from a dock exactly two blocks from the cottage. (You can also rent small boats for Bay fishing.)

"Stone Harbor's municipal tennis courts are open to the public; there's a golf course in Wildwood (not too far by car); and the famous bird sanctuary lies just south of the business section of the town."

P. "What happens when it rains? Don't people get on each others' nerves?"

S. "Apparently not. Everyone seems to get along well with everyone else. In

fact our Rector calls Russell 'A real experience in Christian living'."

P. "This sounds almost to good to be true. When can we go?"

Season

S. "The Cottage is open to members of the Parish (and their guests when space is available) from Sunday, July 12 through Saturday, August 29."

P. "Not before the 12th?"

S. "No, but I'm glad you asked the question. You see, starting the middle of June the Cottage is opened up for the benefit of our choirs, acolytes and junior ushers so that each group in turn may enjoy a week or two of well-earned vacation."

P. "I like that! So I suspect the next thing to do is talk this over with my wife and I think she'll buy the idea. Then I fill in the reservation and send it in with a small deposit?"

S. "Right. I know that you and your wife and children will find it a great experience."

St. Mary's, Ardmore, Will Open Summer Cottage to Others

EVER HEAR OF a church having its own summer resort? St. Mary's Church, in Ardmore, has had one for 56 years. It is Russell Choir Cottage, a large, white, green-roofed, green-shuttered house overlooking the bay in Stone Harbor, N.J.

On June 14, after being closed all winter, Russell Cottage will come alive with the sounds of young people in occupancy. For the next four weeks, members of St. Mary's boys' and girls' choirs, acolytes, and junior ushers will enjoy seashore vacations earned by their year's work for the Church.

RUSSELL COTTAGE was built in 1906, through the efforts of William H. Russell, founder of St. Mary's boys' choir, choirmaster for 35 years, and a long-time champion of the interests of his young proteges. Over the years, the cottage has offered its facilities first to its young people's groups and, later in the season, to the families of the parish and their friends. For many summers, its season has ended with a conference where church-school teachers, accompanied by their families, receive inspiration and training under the guidance of St. Mary's staff and outside teachers.

Rewarding Experience

Men and women of the parish, many of whom remember happy days as children at Russell Cottage, have worked hard to maintain and modernize it. Their handiwork has contributed attractive surroundings, an efficient kitchen, and comfortable living quarters. Families who have stayed there have found the experience of group living with known friends and new acquaintances a richly rewarding Christian experience.

LIFE IN THE BIG house on the bay is relaxed and simple. Time spent there is a shared, rather than a regimented vacation. Responsibilities are minimal. Everyone, even the smallest guest, helps with dishes and table-setting, to the accompaniment of song or lively conversation. But, to make it a real vacation for visitors, the host church provides a full-time director to supervise activities and manage the operation of the cottage, as well as a resident cook to cater to hearty summer appetites. The house accommodates up to 45 people in dormitories and a few private rooms.

Moved After Storm

The patio of Russell Cottage, added when the storm of 1962 forced the removal of the house back toward the street from its original position directly on the channel bulkhead, affords a fine view of picturesque sailboats and fishing craft. There is bay swimming right off the cottage dock, but for those who prefer ocean bathing, guarded beaches are only four blocks away. Movies, fishing, both inland and deep-sea, tennis, and other summer-resort diversions can be found within easy walking distance.

THIS SUMMER, St. Mary's would like to offer the use of Russell Cottage to other churches, either to young people's groups, or to families who would enjoy a reasonably-priced seashore vacation in a Christian atmosphere. Anyone interested may contact the rector of St. Mary's, in Ardmore.

As many members of St. Mary's, as well as their friends, will agree, a stay at Russell Cottage is a unique experience, friendly, happy, restful, and a taste of true Christian fellowship.

RATES

(American Plan — all rates include breakfast, lunch and dinner.)

Weekly

	Members of St. Mary's Church			Non-Members		
	Adults	Children 7-12	Children 1-6	Adults	Children 7-12	Children 1-6
Dormitory	$25	$15	$7	$30	$18	$10
Private Room (Twin Beds)	$32.50*	—	—	$38.50*	—	—
Daily						
Dormitory Mon.-Thurs.	$5	$4	$3	$6	$5	$4
Dormitory Fri.-Sat.-Sun.	$6	$5	$4	$7	$6	$5
Private Room (Twin Beds) Mon.-Thurs.	$7*	—	—	$8*	—	—
Private Room (Twin Beds) Fri.-Sat.-Sun.	$8*	—	—	$9*	—	—

* Per person (Two in a room)

Guests not staying overnight may buy breakfast for $.50, lunch for $.75 and dinner for $1.50.

A nominal charge — $.50 per person — is made for use of the cottage as a dressing room and for the showers. Guests are asked to leave their luggage in their cars in order to avoid extra clutter in the living room and dormitories.

Sheets and pillowcases may be rented at the cottage (2 sheets and 1 pillowcase for $1.). Blankets are free. However, guests may bring their own linens and blankets if they so desire.

All guests should abide by the "house rules" posted on the bulletin board.

Russell Choir Cottage Reservation Blank

(Fill out and send to: Mr. Richard Leinbach, Director
The Russell Cottage
9329 Sunset Drive,
Stone Harbor, New Jersey

—after June 14, 1964.

Please reserve ..... places for me at the Cottage for the following (days) (weeks):

.....

.....

I would prefer a private room if available. .....

I do not need a private room. .....

Enclosed is my check for $..... as a deposit.

(Signed) .....

Address .....

Phone ....